

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
19 August 2003

Original: English

**Letter dated 14 August 2003 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 15 May 2003 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2003/574), as well as to Security Council resolutions 1484 (2003) and 1493 (2003) of 30 May and 28 July, respectively.

Pursuant to the relevant paragraphs of those resolutions, preparations for the deployment by the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) of a brigade-size force to Bunia are well under way. The deployment to Bunia of an infantry battalion from Bangladesh will be completed by 15 August. It will join the Uruguayan battalion which is already there, to ensure a smooth transition from the Interim Emergency Multinational Force (IEMF) on 1 September 2003.

The preparedness of MONUC to take over from IEMF on 1 September notwithstanding, it is expected that the situation in Bunia could become volatile during the transition period. To meet the challenges of the transition, contingency planning is being conducted by MONUC, in close cooperation with IEMF. I have been informed by the European Union, and by France in its capacity as lead nation, that, while IEMF would begin to disengage following the transfer of authority on 1 September, it would be ready to provide emergency support to MONUC, at the latter's request, to assist it in the performance of its mandated responsibilities in and around Bunia, if circumstances require.

I believe that such support would contribute to the maintenance of peace and security in the area during the transition period. Accordingly, I should like to recommend that the Council consider authorizing the Interim Emergency Multinational Force to provide assistance to the MONUC troops deployed in and around Bunia. That assistance would be provided under the conditions described above, and for as long as IEMF considers that it has the means and operational capabilities to do so.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan





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Letter dated 19 August 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation regarding the terrorist act against the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Baghdad that took place on 19 August 2003 (see annex). Allow me to express our condolences to the relatives of those who were killed and our sincerest sympathies to those who were injured during this barbaric act.

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gennady Gantsev
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 19 August 2003 from the Chargé
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

[Original: Russian]

**Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian
Federation concerning the terrorist act in Baghdad**

Moscow is shocked by the reports of the explosion that occurred in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in Baghdad. Judging by the first reports, it was a terrorist act resulting in numerous human casualties.

We wish to express our deep condolences to the victims' families and loved ones and our sympathy to those injured.

This barbarous act, for which there is no justification, is aimed at undermining the already difficult process of post-war stabilization in Iraq. It is a cause for indignation that the terrorists' target was the staff of the United Nations, whose efforts are directed solely at helping the Iraqi people to deal with the after-effects of the military conflict and lead a normal life.

The tragedy that has occurred confirms with the utmost clarity the need for broader and more united participation by the international community in advancing a settlement in Iraq in accordance with the existing resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations.

19 August 2003

**General Assembly
Security Council**Distr.: General
20 August 2003

Original: English

**General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session**

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

**Report of the Secretary-General on the work of
the Organization****Security Council
Fifty-eighth year****Identical letters dated 19 August 2003 from the Permanent
Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the
President of the General Assembly and the President of the
Security Council**

Upon instructions from my Government, I wish to bring to the attention of the Security Council matters relating to peace and security in South Asia, in the context of Pakistan-India relations and the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

India's military deployments against Pakistan last year had led to a sharp escalation of tensions between Pakistan and India and caused justified anxiety in the international community, including within the Security Council. Fortunately, realizing the futility and danger of such confrontation and the serious global concern it evoked, India announced, in October 2002, a partial withdrawal of its troops deployed in forward positions on the international border with Pakistan. Pakistan welcomed this and reciprocated the pullback of troops along the international border.

Following accommodating statements on both sides earlier this year, and telephonic contacts between the Prime Ministers of the two countries, certain steps were taken to reduce tensions and improve the political environment. Pakistan and India have since restored diplomatic relations at the level of High Commissioners (Ambassadors) and resumed a bus service between Lahore and New Delhi. Pakistan has proposed the resumption of rail links. Expert-level talks on aviation matters are scheduled later this month. Parliamentary and business delegations have exchanged visits. Interaction has also taken place between civil society groups.

However, these small steps to gradually revert to the pre-military mobilization status (December 2001) should not create the incorrect impression that there has

* A/58.150



been forward movement in resolving the outstanding differences between India and Pakistan, especially over Jammu and Kashmir. Official talks between the two sides have not been resumed. The security environment in South Asia remains fragile and volatile. India has not withdrawn its forces from the Line of Control in Kashmir. Sporadic exchange of fire continues along the line. Indian leaders continue to make periodic threats against Pakistan.

In the context of upcoming state elections and next year's national elections in India, Indian political parties and leaders have revived their belligerent posture towards Pakistan and may take other steps that could heighten tensions and revive the danger of another conflict.

The recent congregations of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) (Raipore on 18 July) have, for example, not only issued belligerent rhetoric against Pakistan; they have called for the construction of a Hindu temple on the site of the Babri Mosque in Ayodhya and the destruction of over 3,000 other mosques across India. An electoral campaign based on hate against India's Muslims and Pakistan does not auger well for peace and stability on the sub-continent.

India's persistent refusal to resume bilateral dialogue and agree to a serious, substantive and sustained engagement for peaceful resolution of all issues, notably the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, should be a cause of concern for the international community. So far there is no talk about talks, no road map and no signpost for moving towards a genuine process for peace and security in South Asia.

Unofficial exchanges cannot be a substitute for official talks. Pakistan has persistently called on India to resume the composite dialogue at the Foreign Secretaries level. Pakistan remains ready to pursue the composite dialogue on the basis of the previously agreed agenda, which includes all issues of mutual concern, including Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan's approach is guided by a sense of responsibility and a desire to lower tensions and prevent conflict. A bilateral dialogue is not a favour, which either country would bestow on the other. India's demand that Pakistan make unilateral concessions to its position is designed to frustrate not facilitate a dialogue. India's aversion to talks is premised on seeking concessions from Pakistan unilaterally through coercive means. A delay in opening such a dialogue is bound to strengthen the positions of extremists and complicate the search for acceptable mutual solutions to outstanding issues. These trends may accentuate in view of the ascendancy of militant Hindu extremist sentiments within the Indian polity now being manifested in the pre-electoral play in India.

Obviously, a resolution of Jammu and Kashmir is central to the promotion of normal and friendly relations between Pakistan and India. It is the principal item on the agreed agenda for bilateral talks.

The President of Pakistan has advanced several proposals to address the Kashmir dispute. Recently, President Musharraf reiterated the proposal for observance of a ceasefire along the Line of Control in Kashmir as well as an accompanying cessation of hostilities within the Kashmir Valley. The institution of the ceasefire can be achieved immediately if both Governments were to issue instructions to their forces along the Line of Control to halt fire. Such a ceasefire along the Line of Control should be acceptable to India since it would set at rest India's frequently voiced fears that cross Line of Control movement takes place

under the cover of fire across the Line of Control. Moreover, Pakistan is agreeable to an impartial international monitoring mechanism on both sides of the Line to verify the claims made by India of cross Line infiltration. We also favour the strengthening of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).

Pakistan desires that India should concurrently take steps to reduce and eliminate repression and human rights violations in Indian-occupied Kashmir, release Kashmiri prisoners, ease travel restrictions imposed on Kashmiri leaders, enabling them to visit abroad to present their point of view, and reduce the level of its forces deployed in Kashmir. In turn, Pakistan is confident that the Kashmiri freedom fighters, the Kashmiri Mujahideen, will reciprocate by refraining from acts of violent resistance against Indian forces in Indian-occupied Kashmir. The indigenous Kashmiri armed resistance in Occupied Kashmir is a corollary to the repression and India's military operations against Kashmiris.

Pakistan is also prepared to discuss and evolve confidence-building measures with India, both political and military, in the conventional and nuclear fields. Several confidence-building measures were in fact agreed upon between the two sides in Lahore in 1999. A start can be made to promote and implement these agreed measures.

Pakistan is concerned that India's belligerent posture and propaganda is accompanied by a massive build-up of its conventional and non-conventional military capabilities. The Indian defence budget has increased by over 50 per cent during the last three years. India plans to acquire new advanced weapons worth over \$100 billion over the next several years. Such a build-up of India's military capabilities will not only encourage its belligerent posture towards Pakistan and other neighbours; it will intensify India's desire to impose its political and military domination over South Asia and the Indian Ocean region. India's acquisition of advanced weapons is primarily designed to undermine regional strategic stability. Any erosion of the strategic deterrence, which currently exists between Pakistan and India, would increase the danger of Indian aggression against Pakistan. Members of the Security Council, especially the five permanent members, have a special responsibility to prevent these developments, which can threaten regional as well as global peace and security.

In context of the dangers outlined in the preceding paragraphs, Pakistan believes the international community must urgently call on India to respond positively to Pakistan's proposals to revive the bilateral dialogue, install an effective ceasefire along the Line of Control, halt threatening statements and propaganda, stop its repression in Kashmir, reduce military deployments in the disputed State and evolve confidence-building measures with Pakistan to reduce the risk of accidental or deliberate conflict. Above all, Pakistan is convinced that a peaceful and just solution for the Jammu and Kashmir dispute holds the key to peace and stability in South Asia.

The international community, especially the United Nations and the Security Council, have a vital responsibility to promote conditions of stability and peace in South Asia, a region inhabited by one fifth of humanity. It is Pakistan's earnest hope that the United Nations and the Security Council will make all possible endeavours to facilitate resumption of a serious, substantive and sustained dialogue between

India and Pakistan for peaceful resolution of all outstanding issues, notably the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

(Signed) Munir Akram
Ambassador and Permanent Representative